



"Together to create new growth"
"Social entrepreneurship & social economy: Developing a European ecosystem to unlock social innovation, growth and jobs"
Conference on 18 November 2011 - Brussels

Speaker: Sven GIEGOLD

CURRICULUM VITAE

With a University degree in Adults Education, Policy and Economics and a Master's degree in Economic Policy and Economic Development, Sven Giegold was the Cofounder of **Attac Germany** in 2000, being representative of Friends of the Earth Germany in the council of Attac. Since 2001 he has been active with speeches and presence in the media on globalization criticism, ecology and tax policy. In 2002, he co-founded the **International Tax Justice Network** and has been active in the European Attac coordination since then.

Since 2007 he is a Member of the Presidential Meeting of the German Protestant Church Congress.

In July 2009 he has been elected to the **European Parliament** as **Member** of the **The Greens/ EFA** and he is **Coordinator of the Greens in the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee**. As substitute Member in the Parliament's Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, he is rapporteur for the report on the **European Cooperative Society Statute**.

He will be **the rapporteur for the Ucits revision**.

DELIVERING A NEW OFFER FOR GROWTH

The Greens at the European Parliament support social and solidarity economy enterprises, because they tackle social and ecologic challenges productively: through economic activity. Social and solidarity economy enterprises come in very different forms, but they all have in common that they provide more advantages to society than capital-based enterprises probably ever could. Social and solidarity economy enterprises are profitable, but their business model rests on other objectives. Worker cooperatives provide healthier, more resilient working environment. Employees and volunteers in associations ensure social services all over Europe. Cooperative banks have proven to be more crisis resilient. Community-based farming produces healthy, local food. Consumer cooperatives unite purchasing power for goods the market would otherwise not supply, like renewable energy. And Fair Trade strengthens producers even outside the EU.

As a substitute member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Mr Giegold is rapporteur for the Parliament's initiative on the participation of employees in cooperatives using the European Cooperative Society Statute (SCE). In close cooperation with cooperative organizations he has hammered out the most urgent demands of cooperatives and their employees: specialized business support and consultancy measures at national level, tangible social criteria in public procurement rules, clarification of State aid rules, and the adaptation of financial regulation to cooperative financial structure. Also, the Statute should be usable independently from and in parallel to national legislation.

The European Commission and many Member State governments do not usually take the specificities of social and solidarity economy enterprises into account. They are only familiar with capital-based and state-owned enterprises. While the Social Business Initiative contains many interesting elements, it remains proof of this deficit: it fails to draw a clear line between social and solidarity economy and corporate social responsibility. Most importantly, the Commission still has to ensure that a sufficient number of dedicated staff will be available to put the Communication into practice, so that it does not suffer the same fate as the 2004 Communication on cooperatives and mutual societies.